

SNAP/EBT AGREEMENT

Okanogan Valley Farmers Market Vendor Agreement for Credit/Debit/SNAP (food stamp) Service Program

The Okanogan Valley Farmers Market operates a Credit/Debit/SNAP (food stamp) Service Program. The market's goal, with you as a partner, is to provide a value-added revenue source for the vendors and to offer fresh fruits and vegetables to low income families who use food stamps. In addition, because we are offering Credit/Debit services, we feel confident that the market can increase the overall vendor sales with the current average daily crowd count of the market. The market will promote this program in market signage, press releases, and advertising. All revenues and expenses of the program will be reviewed each year for its value to the market, the farmers and to the community.

For consistency in the program and clarity for the market customer, the board of directors requires that all produce vendors participate in the program. No fee will be charged for the EBT tokens. Taking Debit/Credit is voluntary and the fee for the program is 3% of Credit/Debit sales per market. The market will sell tokens to customers. The customers will use these tokens to purchase your products. At the end of the day, vendors will count the tokens and place them in an envelope provided by the market manager. The market manager will issue a check to you for these sales once a month. Vendors will benefit as if they had individual wireless Credit/Debit/SNAP (food stamp) machines without the additional bookkeeping tasks.

As a federal program, the SNAP (food stamp program) is regulated by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service. We are asking vendors to sign this agreement to assure that they are aware of the rules of the program. The Okanogan Valley Farmers Market sees this program as a joint responsibility.

I, _____ on behalf of my business, _____ agree to abide by the rules described herein as they relate to the processing Credit/Debit/SNAP (Food Stamp) transactions. I/we agree to follow all USDA SNAP rules, as outlined on the bottom of this agreement. I/we understand that the Market Board has the right to remove vendors from the market who do not comply with these rules.

_____ Vendor Signature	_____ Business Name	_____ Date
_____ Market Signature	_____ Market Position	_____ Date

SNAP (food stamp) benefits **can** be used to buy: fruits, vegetables, meats, fish, poultry, dairy products, seeds and plants intended for growing food. Benefits **cannot** be used to buy: non-food items, ready to eat, prepared foods or hot foods.

You may not set a minimum purchase requirement and NO cash can be given as change for SNAP tokens. Change can be given for credit/debit tokens.

ELIGIBLE FOOD ITEMS for USDA SNAP (food stamps) PURCHASES

Additional information on the SNAP rules are available online. If you have any questions, please ask your market manager.

Source: www.fns.usda.gov/snap/retailers/eligible.htm (July 2012)

Shoppers **CAN** use SNAP benefits to buy:

1. Foods for the household to eat, such as:

- ✓ breads and cereals;
- ✓ fruits and vegetables;

meats, fish and poultry; and

- ✓ dairy products.

2. Seeds and plants which produce food for the household to eat.

Shoppers **CANNOT** use SNAP benefits to buy non-food items, ready to eat foods or hot foods.

1. Any prepared or hot food items that are intended to be eaten on site.

2. Any nonfood items, such as:

- pet foods;
- soaps, paper products; and
- household supplies.

3. Vitamins and medicines.

4. Beer, wine, liquor, cigarettes or tobacco;

Also note:

- Vendors are not allowed to set a minimum purchase requirement.
- Cash cannot be given as change for SNAP/EBT (food stamp). (Change can be given for Credit/Debit tokens.)